

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/826,929

Examiner

M. Franco Salvoza

Applicant(s)

LAI, ALEXANDER

Art Unit

1648

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's reply filed 11/29/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10 and 12-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>02/16/07</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-10, 12-19 are pending and under consideration.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with R. Alan Weeks on February 16 and 19, 2007.

1. (Currently amended) A vaccine for equine influenza virus, comprising:
an effective immunizing amount of an isolated DNA, the isolated DNA comprising sequences that encode at least a fragment of an HA1 protein, wherein DNA encoding from which HA2 is absent, the sequences being from a strain of equine-2 influenza virus; and a pharmacologically acceptable carrier or diluent.

4. (Currently amended) The vaccine according to claim 1, wherein the sequences ~~that encode an HA1 protein from which HA2 is absent~~ that encode at least a fragment of an HA1 protein, wherein DNA encoding HA2 is absent, comprise the nucleotide sequence of
SEQ ID NO: 1.

6. (Previously presented) The vaccine according to claim 1, further comprising a vector

Art Unit: 1648

containing the sequences ~~that encode an HA1 protein from which HA2 is absent~~ that encode at least a fragment of an HA1 protein, wherein DNA encoding HA2 is absent.

12. (Previously presented) The vaccine according to claim 1, further comprising a liposome into which the sequences ~~that encode an HA1 protein from which HA2 is absent~~ that encode at least a fragment of an HA1 protein, wherein DNA encoding HA2 is absent is encapsulated.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the steps of inserting the sequences ~~that encode an HA1 protein from which HA2 is absent~~ that encode at least a fragment of an HA1 protein, wherein DNA encoding HA2 is absent into a vector and delivering the vaccine intranasally into the respiratory tract.

18. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the vaccine is administered at a dosage of at least 0.01 ~~mg~~ μg DNA per gram of body weight.


Conclusion

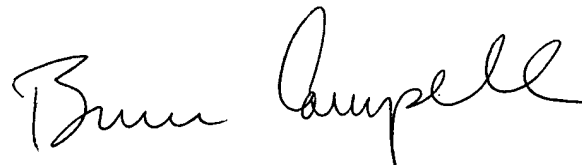
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Franco Salvoza whose telephone number is (571) 272-8410. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bruce Campell can be reached on (571) 272-0974. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1648

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


M. Franco Salvoza
Patent Examiner



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